

---

**CIVIL LITIGATION DIVISION**


---

Evelyn O. Cannon, *Chief of Litigation*

Carmen M. Shepard, *Deputy Chief of Litigation*

200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, MD 21202

(410) 576-6342

The Civil Litigation Division represents State government and State employees in major federal and State civil lawsuits. Attorneys in the Division provide support, either by advising or acting as co-counsel, to agency counsel involved in or contemplating litigation. The Division reviews all federal and State civil appellate briefs and reviews civil complaints for potential suits to be filed by the State.

*CORRECTIONAL LITIGATION UNIT*

Richard M. Kastendieck, *Counsel*

(410) 576-6429

The Correctional Litigation Unit is responsible for the representation of State's Attorneys in any lawsuit challenging their official actions, and of sheriffs where the matter involves correctional matters. The Unit also represents State officials and employees who are sued in State or federal courts by prisoners for violations of their constitutional rights in Maryland prisons.

---

**DIVISION OF CONSUMER PROTECTION**


---

William Leibovici, *Chief*

Lucy A. Weisz, *Deputy Chief*

200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, MD 21202

(410) 576-6557

The Division of Consumer Protection was created in 1967 (Chapter 338, Acts of 1967). The Division is headed by an assistant attorney general who is Chief of the Division.

The Division oversees the control and regulation of unfair and deceptive trade practices. It is responsible for enforcement of civil remedies through court litigation, administrative hearings, complaint mediation, and arbitration. The Division also is charged with recommending legislation to the Governor and the General Assembly to protect the public from fraudulent schemes and promotions.

In addition, the Division reports information about violations of laws affecting consumers to other law enforcement authorities. It seeks to develop and conduct programs of consumer education and information through publications and other materials prepared for the public. The Division undertakes activities to encourage business and industry to maintain high standards of honesty, fair business practices, and public responsibility in the

production, promotion, and sale of consumer goods and services (Code Commercial Law Article, secs. 13-101 through 13-501).

The Division oversees five units: Health Education and Advocacy; Health Club Registration; Arbitration; Complaint Handling; and Investigative.

**CONSUMER COUNCIL**

Mark Silbergeld, *Chairperson*, 1994

(410) 576-6550

Created in 1974 as part of the Division of Consumer Protection, the Consumer Council advises the Division on general goals, undertakes studies and reports, and fosters cooperation among federal, State and local agencies, and private groups (Chapter 609, Acts of 1974).

The Council consists of the Chief of the Division of Consumer Protection and nine members appointed by the Governor with Senate consent. Three members represent consumer groups or interests, three represent business groups or interests, and three represent the public sector. Members serve without compensation for six-year terms (Code Commercial Law Article, sec. 13-202).

*HEALTH EDUCATION & ADVOCACY UNIT*

Kevin M. Simpson, *Director*

(410) 576-6359

Within the Division of Consumer Protection, the Health Education and Advocacy Unit was created in 1986 (Chapters 296 and 565, Acts of 1986). The Unit implements an educational and advocacy program enabling citizens to make informed choices in the health marketplace and participate in decisions concerning their health care.

The Unit helps people understand their health-care bills and third party coverage, identify improper billing or coverage determinations, and report such problems to appropriate agencies, insurers, or providers. The Unit may refer concerns raised about health care to professional, licensing or disciplinary bodies. The Unit also may recommend to government officers and agencies measures to promote the interests of consumers in the health marketplace.

*HEALTH CLUB REGISTRATION UNIT*

Steven Sakomoto-Wengel, *Administrator*

(410) 576-6307

The Health Club Registration Unit was established within the Division of Consumer Protection in 1986. The Unit registers Maryland health clubs and ensures that they are properly bonded (Code Commercial Law Article, secs. 14-12B-01 through 14-12B-08).